

## Indicative Language for a Fact Sheet to Capture US Climate Alliance Announcements at GCAS

These are some of the elements that have come through in one-on-one conversations with state representatives, initiative leads, and through initiative calls. It is an indicative list only, intended to vector check with the full group. It does not indicate there is a consensus yet from any state representatives to adopt all or a subset of these. Substantial consultations are required to get here.

### **U.S. Climate Alliance governors announce the release of 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Report – “On Track for Paris and Thriving”**

Governors announce release of the U.S. Climate Alliance 2<sup>nd</sup> annual report detailing new state action and presenting new data. The report shows U.S. Climate Alliance states remain on track to achieve their share of the Paris Agreement while their economies grow faster than the national average.

At the Global Climate Action Summit, a bipartisan coalition of 17 governors committed to upholding the Paris Agreement through the U.S. Climate Alliance are [turning pledges into action]

The U.S. Climate Alliance remains committed to ambitious climate action and are on track to meet their share of the Paris Agreement emissions target by 2025, all while continuing to grow their economies.

U.S. Climate Alliance states are taking ambitious action across a wide range of sectors and emission sources (see state fact sheets), and recognize that even more needs to be done.

To kickstart a transformational push towards addressing some of the [more difficult areas], [several] U.S. Climate Alliance Governors are committed to taking the following 3 actions:

#### **Short-Lived Climate Pollutants**

Until recently, a growing and effective regulatory framework was in place to begin reducing SLCP emissions nationally. Many of these rules have been rescinded or delayed, leading to significant uncertainty in the regulatory landscape affecting businesses and emissions in the U.S. The U.S. Climate Alliance calls on the Trump Administration and U.S. Senate to ratify the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol, and on the federal government to reinstate or complete national rules to achieve cost effective and technologically feasible reductions in emissions of HFCs, methane from landfills and oil and gas production, and particulate matter and black carbon from woodstoves. In the absence of regulatory certainty at the federal level, and building on existing regulations in some Alliance states, the U.S. Climate Alliance will develop model regulations for states to consider to help reduce SLCP emissions from these sources.

U.S. Climate Alliance states will consider additional steps to further reduce SLCP emissions, as described in the SLCP Action Plan, with the goal of achieving the full economically feasible mitigation potential of SLCP emissions by 2030, currently estimated to be XX percent or more. Additionally, U.S. Climate Alliance states commit to:

- Fulfill a 2016 commitment by the U.S., Canada, and Mexico to reduce methane emissions from the oil and gas sector by 40-45 percent by 2025

**Comment [A1]:** Should we consider something on reforming state procurement practices?  
Work together to reform our procurement practices to be more sustainable, starting with converting our appropriate fleet vehicles to ZEV [as soon as possible][by 2030] and building resilient, low-carbon infrastructure.

- Reduce methane emissions from waste by improving landfill management and increasing diversion of organic waste from landfills, including diverting at least 50 percent of food waste from landfills by 2030
- Achieve economically feasible methane reductions from livestock, including from manure management and enteric fermentation
- Identify and mitigate methane emissions from “super emitters,” which may be responsible for as much as half of methane emissions in some sectors
- Meet or exceed HFC emissions reductions expected from the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol and recent federal regulations
- Develop black carbon inventories and work to further reduce emissions of black carbon and particulate matter beyond declining “business as usual” levels

U.S. Climate Alliance states will develop, improve, and maintain emissions inventories for methane, HFCs, and black carbon. Additionally, the U.S. Climate Alliance will host an annual SLCP Challenge to Action conference, in conjunction with other partners, to report on and track progress toward these commitments and others made pursuant to the SLCP Challenge. The first conference will be held in [city or state] on [date].

#### Natural and Working Lands

The U.S. Climate Alliance Governors recognize that the natural systems upon which we depend are essential to life and critical to reducing the impacts of climate change on our communities. They are also under threat from human activity and climate change. To protect the communities, economies, and ecosystems that depend on them, we will manage natural and working lands, including forests, farms, rangelands, and wetlands, to be resilient carbon sinks.

The U.S. Climate Alliance is committed to adopting state-level action plans by 2020 that outline the role of land-based carbon sequestration and GHG emission reductions as part of broader climate change strategies.

In addition, [XYZ] today establish state-level targets for GHG reductions from natural and working lands:

State X: ### and statement

State Y: ### and statement

State Z: ### and statement

In addition, [NGOs XYZ] announce formation of Coalition [ABC] to provide technical support to state-level inventory development, identification of best practices for land conservation and restoration, and integration of land use and management into broader climate goals.

#### Transportation

Together, the 17 states and territories that make up the US Climate Alliance are deploying \$1.4 billion in Volkswagen mitigation dollars that will help electrify and clean our transportation system through electric and hydrogen fuel cell vehicles, buses, vessels and high speed charging and fueling stations.

In addition, states are committing to go all-ZEV as soon as possible, and no later than 2050. To move towards a zero-emission-vehicle future as soon as possible, the US Climate Alliance will develop a playbook of case studies and model policies to help all states.

**Comment [A2]:** From the ZEV Alliance/Under2 statement for GCAS:

**1. Leading by example through public sector ZEV adoption by:**

- Converting all appropriate public fleet vehicles\* to ZEVs by 2030, or:
- Procuring only ZEVs for appropriate public fleets\* by 2030

**2. Providing incentives for the purchase of ZEVs by consumers and businesses**

**3. Promoting the roll out of ZEV charging and fueling stations**

Given the high levels of transportation technology innovation and disruption, states also commit to continue to study and implement best practices and policy innovations to promote “zero emission miles” across all modes and fleets.

We call on the Federal Highway Administration to re-establish a national performance measure and reduction goals for GHG emissions from transportation to help promote consistent reporting, share best practices and develop a knowledge base in all states. Even in the absence of federal leadership and a formal rule, we commit to annually calculate and report transportation GHG emissions.

The US Climate Alliance states also call on auto companies to come forward with more ZEV models for medium- and heavy-duty vehicles so that all Americans, including those in rural areas and our farming communities, can reap the benefits of vehicles that save money, and protect our health and air.

#### **Product Energy Efficiency Standard**

USCA states will coordinate in the adoption and enforcement of common efficiency standards for a range of consumer and commercial appliances.

Over the last three decades, energy efficiency standards have saved consumers billions of dollars while providing the most cost-effective opportunity to avoid constructing costly new power generation. Today we announce our intent to collaborate on the adoption of common appliance efficiency standards and to coordinate on their implementation and enforcement.

A coordinated effort among multiple states to align around a common set of standards provides manufacturers certainty and the potential for greater harmony between state markets. Coordinated action among the Alliance states could reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 5.5 million tons and save consumers across our states \$4 billion dollars by 2025.

We agree to identify an initial set of priority standards already developed and ready for adoption and to begin work on a coordinated plan to evaluate and adopt new standards.

To ensure swift progress, ensure private sector participation and maximize the opportunity create jobs and grow our clean energy sectors, we announce our intent to partner with the American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy and XYZ Manufacturers Association to advance this effort.

#### **Solar Power**

Governors in the U.S. Climate Alliance recognize that solar power is a vital component of a sustainable energy system, and represents a major economic and job creation engine. [XX] GW of solar – enough to power XX million homes – has been deployed in U.S. Climate Alliance states, creating [XXX,XXX] jobs and reducing emissions by [XXXX]. Today, governors stand together in condemning the wrong-headed federal import tariffs on solar, which are forecast to reduce solar installations by [XXXX] and will destroy [XXXX] jobs.

The U.S. Climate Alliance governors today announce a commitment to offset the impacts of the federal solar import tariffs, and release the *U.S Climate Alliance Solar Guidebook* to support the reduction of solar system costs and streamline regulatory processes. These steps have been proven to dramatically reduce the overall costs of solar systems, and by implementing these innovative strategies, U.S. Climate Alliance states will neutralize the impact of the import tariff.

**Grid Modernization**

U.S. Climate Alliance governors announce release of the *Grid Modernization Playbook* and a *Community Microgrid Handbook*

**Resilience**

In August 2018, the federal government disbanded a Federal Advisory Committee designed to help shape climate science and research. In January 2018, the group reconvened in New York and pledged to continue its vital work and deliver recommendations to the U.S. Climate Alliance. Today, U.S. Climate Alliance governors announce the release of the scientific report at the Global Climate Action Summit.

**Green Banks**

[TBD]